

1. (currently amended) An automated external defibrillator comprising:
  - an information request input;
  - a state parameter indicative of ~~an~~ the current operational state of the defibrillator;
  - an output; and
  - a controller which provides context-sensitive rescue information to the output in response to the information request input and the current operational state of the defibrillator.
2. (previously presented) The automated external defibrillator of claim 1, further comprising a second state parameter indicating the defibrillator electrode status, wherein said controller further provides said context-sensitive rescue information based on said second state parameter.
3. (original) The automated external defibrillator of claim 2, wherein said defibrillator electrode status comprises a rescue electrode status, training electrode status or electrode not installed status.
4. (previously presented) The automated external defibrillator of claim 3, wherein said rescue electrode status further comprises an adult electrode status or pediatric electrode status.
5. (currently amended) The automated external defibrillator of claim 1, wherein said state ~~input~~ parameter is responsive to an impedance between electrodes which is indicative of said operational state of the defibrillator.
6. (original) The automated external defibrillator of claim 1, wherein said context-sensitive rescue information comprises a CPR instruction.
7. (previously presented) The automated external defibrillator of claim 1, wherein said output is a speaker.
8. (previously presented) The automated external defibrillator of claim 1, wherein the information request input is a button.
9. (previously presented) The automated external defibrillator of claim 8, wherein said button is selectively activated by said controller, and wherein said activation is indicated by the automated external defibrillator.
10. (currently amended) A method for operating the automated external defibrillator of claim 1 to provide context-sensitive rescue information to the user of the

automated external defibrillator, the method comprising the steps of:

requesting help through the information request input;  
determining ~~an~~ the current operational state of the defibrillator by the defibrillator; and  
conveying through an output rescue information based on said requesting step and determining step.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of detecting a defibrillator electrode status, and wherein said rescue information is further based on said detecting step.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said defibrillator electrode status comprises a rescue electrode status, training electrode status or electrode not installed status.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said rescue electrode status further comprises an adult electrode status or pediatric electrode status.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein detecting a defibrillator electrode status further comprises the step of measuring an impedance between electrodes, and wherein said output rescue information is further based on said measuring step.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said rescue information comprises a CPR instruction.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said output is a speaker.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said information request input is a button.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:  
selectively activating said button based on said operational state; and  
illuminating said button in response to said activating step.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said rescue information comprises one of defibrillator condition, defibrillation procedure guidance, user reassurance comments, enhanced CPR guidance, or defibrillator administrative guidance.

20. (previously presented) The automated external defibrillator of claim 1, wherein said rescue information further comprises one of defibrillator condition,

defibrillation procedure guidance, user reassurance comments, enhanced CPR guidance, or defibrillator administrative guidance.